

Application No. 09/823,991
Amendment dated: July 6, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated May 5, 2004

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously amended) A method for establishing a communication path in a data-driven communication system, comprising:
 - defining a first layer agent, a first set of predetermined policies for linking the first layer agent to a second layer agent, and a second set of predetermined policies for linking the second layer agent to a third layer agent;
 - receiving, at the first layer agent, data related to a communication;
 - invoking a first policy of the first set of predetermined policies in accordance with the data related to the communication;
 - establishing a first policy chain through the first set of predetermined policies linking the first layer agent and the second layer agent;
 - invoking a policy of the second set of predetermined policies in accordance with data received from the second layer agent; and
 - establishing a second policy chain through the second set of predetermined policies linking the second layer agent and the third layer agent, the first and second policy chains determining a communication path between the first layer agent and the third layer agent.
2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first layer agent is a destination agent, the second layer agent is a node agent, and the third layer agent is a device agent.
3. (previously cancelled)
4. (previously cancelled)
5. (previously cancelled)
6. (previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the data related to the communication path includes receiving system parameters.
7. (previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the data related to the

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communication includes receiving a system time.

8. (previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the data related to the communication includes receiving a system date.

9. (previously amended) The method of claim 8, wherein receiving the data related to the communication includes receiving a day of week.

10. (previously amended) A data-driven communication system for establishing a data-driven communication path, comprising:

a first layer agent operable to receive data related to a communication;

a second layer agent linked to the first layer agent by a first set of predetermined policies such that a first policy chain can be established therebetween, in accordance with the data related to the communication, thereby linking the first layer agent to the second layer agent; and

a third layer agent linked to the second layer agent by a second set of predetermined policies such that a second policy chain can be established therebetween, in accordance with data received from the second layer agent, thereby linking the second layer agent to the third layer agent and establishing a data-driven communication path between the first layer agent and the third layer agent.

11. (original) The communication system of claim 10, wherein the first layer agent is a device agent, the second layer agent is a node agent, and the third layer agent is a destination agent.

12. (previously cancelled)

13. (previously cancelled)

14. (previously amended) The communication system of claim 10, wherein the communication path is a communication path of a half call.

15. (original) The communication system of claim 14, further comprising at least one system feature for modifying the communication path.

16. (original) The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one system feature is an in-call feature.

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17. (original) The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one system feature is a data modifying feature.
18. (original) The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one system feature is an advanced programmable system feature.
19. (previously amended) The communication system of claim 10, wherein the first, second and third layer agents are implemented as instances of objects.
20. (previously amended) The communication system of claim 10, further comprising a database having entries corresponding to instances of the first, second and third layer agents.
21. (previously amended) The communication system of claim 20, wherein the database comprises tables corresponding respectively to instances of the first, second and third layer agents.
22. (previously amended) The communication system of claim 21, wherein the database further comprises a table corresponding to the first and second sets of predetermined policies.
23. (original) The communication system of claim 22, including means for configuring the system through the database upon startup.
24. (original) The communication system of claim 22, including means for reconfiguring the system through the database.
25. (original) The communication system of claim 20, further including a user interface for entering changes to the database.
26. (original) The communication system of claim 25, wherein the user interface is a graphical user interface for displaying modifiable icons, representing agents and policies, and modifiable interconnections between them, for facilitating modification of the database.
27. (previously amended) The communication system of claim 18, wherein the at least one advanced programmable system feature is triggered by a tone given for a reason.
28. (original) The communication system of claim 27, further comprising a trigger table for

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determining which of the at least one advanced programmable system features is triggered.

29. (original) The communication system of claim 28, wherein the trigger table points to a policy chain.

30. (original) The communication system of claim of claim 29, wherein the policy chain determines the advanced programmable system feature to be triggered.

31. (original) The communication system of claim 10, wherein a trigger table is associated to an agent.

32. (original) The communication system of claim 20, wherein the database includes trigger tables.

33. (original) The communication system of claim 20, wherein the database includes advanced programmable system feature definitions.

34. (original) The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one system feature is triggered by an event in a state.

35. (original) The communication system of claim 34, further comprising a trigger table for determining which of the at least one system features is triggered.

36. (original) The communication system of claim 35, wherein the trigger table points to a policy chain.

37. (previously amended) The communication system of claim of claim 36, wherein the policy chain determines the at least one system feature to be triggered.